



New Mexico Agricultural
Statistics Service

Weekly Ag Update

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INCLUDED IN THIS ISSUE

Weather Summary Milk Production Cattle on Feed Farm Labor

Available on Internet at: www.nass.usda.gov/nm OR by e-mail (call 1-800-530-8810 for information)

WEATHER SUMMARY

New Mexico experienced a relatively dry week with temperatures a little above normal at most places. The statewide average was 3 degrees above normal. Afternoon readings hit the 70's at lower elevation stations in the south on several days. Precipitation was light and confined to the northern half of the state. Greatest totals were at Chama (.28") and Red River (.23"). The Roy station has closed.

NEW MEXICO WEATHER CONDITIONS FEBRUARY 16 - 22, 2003

| Station | Temperature | | | Precipitation | | | | |
|---------------|-------------|---------|---------|----------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|-------------------|
| | Mean | Maximum | Minimum | 02/16 02/22 | 02/01 02/22 | Normal Feb | 01/01 02/22 | Normal Jan-Feb |
| Carlsbad | 51.9 | 77 | 28 | T | 0.19 | 0.35 | 0.38 | 0.70 |
| Tatum | 46.7 | 75 | 26 | T | 0.14 | 0.50 | 0.28 | 0.89 |
| Roswell | 49.8 | 74 | 26 | 0.00 | 0.03 | 0.46 | 0.05 | 0.89 |
| Clayton | 44.4 | 77 | 17 | T | 0.00 | 0.31 | 0.00 | 0.55 |
| Clovis | 48.7 | 75 | 27 | 0.01 | 0.28 | 0.51 | 0.55 | 0.90 |
| Roy | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | 0.43 | --- | 0.77 |
| Tucumcari | 46.4 | 77 | 20 | 0.01 | 0.05 | 0.45 | 0.08 | 0.73 |
| Chama | 29.1 | 57 | -2 | 0.28 | 1.37 | 1.58 | 1.50 | 3.35 |
| Johnson Ranch | 36.5 | 57 | 12 | 0.00 | 0.47 | 0.57 | 0.53 | 1.24 |
| Capulin | 36.6 | 65 | 10 | 0.05 | 0.41 | 0.56 | 0.50 | 0.96 |
| Las Vegas | 38.4 | 62 | 23 | 0.04 | 0.05 | 0.39 | 0.05 | 0.71 |
| Los Alamos | 35.2 | 51 | 18 | 0.15 | 1.26 | 0.80 | 1.88 | 1.66 |
| Raton | 38.2 | 67 | 11 | T | 0.31 | 0.54 | 0.34 | 1.01 |
| Santa Fe | 37.9 | 59 | 17 | 0.03 | 0.15 | 0.69 | 0.19 | 1.32 |
| Red River | 26.2 | 54 | -5 | 0.23 | 1.75 | 1.22 | 2.26 | 2.29 |
| Farmington | 40.5 | 63 | 18 | 0.09 | 0.37 | 0.57 | 0.37 | 1.16 |
| Gallup | 37.1 | 64 | 10 | T | 0.07 | 0.74 | 0.07 | 1.54 |
| Grants | 37.6 | 67 | 13 | 0.00 | 0.13 | 0.51 | 0.16 | 1.00 |
| Silver City | 41.6 | 59 | 23 | 0.00 | 1.05 | 1.25 | 1.05 | 2.41 |
| Quemado | 38.8 | 65 | 11 | 0.00 | 0.23 | 0.72 | 0.25 | 1.55 |
| Albuquerque | 44.8 | 64 | 26 | 0.04 | 0.08 | 0.46 | 0.08 | 0.90 |
| Carrizozo | 43.5 | 68 | 18 | 0.00 | 0.26 | 0.57 | 0.31 | 1.17 |
| Gran Quivera | 42.2 | 65 | 25 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.82 | 0.00 | 1.52 |
| Moriarty | 38.4 | 67 | 11 | 0.15 | 0.41 | 0.48 | 0.57 | 0.91 |
| Ruidoso | 41.5 | 65 | 19 | 0.00 | 0.69 | 1.16 | 0.78 | 2.28 |
| Socorro | 46.6 | 71 | 19 | T | 0.06 | 0.39 | 0.11 | 0.78 |
| Alamogordo | 53.6 | 71 | 36 | 0.00 | 0.09 | 0.54 | 0.09 | 1.21 |
| Animas | 52.6 | 79 | 34 | 0.00 | 0.55 | 0.51 | 0.55 | 1.19 |
| Deming | 49.5 | 76 | 24 | T | 0.14 | 0.46 | 0.14 | 1.02 |
| T or C | 49.7 | 77 | 29 | T | 0.01 | 0.38 | 0.02 | 0.84 |
| Las Cruces | 50.9 | 73 | 25 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.37 | 0.00 | 0.83 |

(T) Trace (-) No Report (*) Correction

All reports based on preliminary data. Precipitation data corrected monthly from official observation forms.

MILK PRODUCTION

NEW MEXICO: Milk production in the State during January 2004 totaled 572 million pounds, a 2% increase over December 2003 production of 561 million pounds. Production per cow in January averaged 1,760 pounds compared to 1,730 the previous month. The average number of milk cows on farms increased by 1,000 head from 324,000 in December 2003 to 325,000 head in January 2004. Number of milk cows on farms one year ago totaled 314,000 head.

UNITED STATES: Milk production in the 20 major States during January totaled 12.5 billion pounds, down 0.9 percent from January 2003. December revised production, at 12.3 billion pounds, was down 0.2 percent from December 2002. The December revision represented an increase of 0.5 percent or 62 million pounds from last month's preliminary production estimate. Production per cow in the 20 major States averaged 1,620 pounds for January, 5 pounds above January 2003. The number of cows on farms in the 20 major States was 7.72 million head, 92,000 head less than January 2003, but 5,000 head more than December 2003.

Milk Cows and Production: December 2003^{1/} and January 2003-2004

| State | Milk Cows ^{2/} | | | Milk per Cow ^{3/} | | | Milk Production ^{3/} | | |
|---------------|-------------------------|--------------|--------------|----------------------------|--------------|--------------|-------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| | 1/03 | 12/03 | 1/04 | 1/03 | 12/03 | 1/04 | 1/03 | 12/03 | 1/04 |
| | -----1,000 Head----- | | | -----Pounds----- | | | -----Million Pounds----- | | |
| AZ | 155 | 155 | 155 | 1,970 | 1,895 | 2,015 | 305 | 294 | 312 |
| CA | 1,672 | 1,697 | 1,702 | 1,790 | 1,740 | 1,755 | 2,993 | 2,953 | 2,987 |
| FL | 147 | 140 | 140 | 1,360 | 1,355 | 1,395 | 200 | 190 | 195 |
| ID | 392 | 412 | 412 | 1,800 | 1,800 | 1,800 | 706 | 742 | 742 |
| IL | 114 | 109 | 108 | 1,580 | 1,585 | 1,610 | 180 | 173 | 174 |
| IN | 146 | 145 | 145 | 1,710 | 1,700 | 1,715 | 250 | 247 | 249 |
| IA | 207 | 196 | 196 | 1,595 | 1,580 | 1,600 | 330 | 310 | 314 |
| KY | 120 | 112 | 112 | 1,115 | 1,070 | 1,090 | 134 | 120 | 122 |
| MI | 302 | 300 | 301 | 1,765 | 1,765 | 1,780 | 533 | 530 | 536 |
| MN | 480 | 465 | 465 | 1,520 | 1,485 | 1,515 | 730 | 691 | 704 |
| MO | 134 | 124 | 125 | 1,240 | 1,250 | 1,265 | 166 | 155 | 158 |
| NM | 314 | 324 | 325 | 1,720 | 1,730 | 1,760 | 540 | 561 | 572 |
| NY | 675 | 657 | 658 | 1,515 | 1,480 | 1,495 | 1,023 | 972 | 984 |
| OH | 260 | 258 | 258 | 1,445 | 1,440 | 1,450 | 376 | 372 | 374 |
| PA | 590 | 562 | 563 | 1,540 | 1,480 | 1,500 | 909 | 832 | 845 |
| TX | 320 | 317 | 317 | 1,505 | 1,575 | 1,660 | 482 | 499 | 526 |
| VT | 153 | 146 | 146 | 1,495 | 1,505 | 1,530 | 229 | 220 | 223 |
| VA | 116 | 106 | 105 | 1,365 | 1,335 | 1,380 | 158 | 142 | 145 |
| WA | 248 | 241 | 240 | 1,910 | 1,900 | 1,915 | 474 | 458 | 460 |
| WI | 1,265 | 1,247 | 1,245 | 1,500 | 1,485 | 1,510 | 1,898 | 1,852 | 1,880 |
| 20 STS | 7,810 | 7,713 | 7,718 | 1,615 | 1,596 | 1,620 | 12,616 | 12,313 | 12,502 |

1/ Revised. 2/ Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh. 3/ Excludes milk sucked by calves.

CATTLE ON FEED

NEW MEXICO: Cattle and calves on feed for the slaughter market in the State for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head on February 1, 2004 totaled 117,000 head. This compares to 115,000 head on January 1, 2004. Placements in feedlots increased by 3,000 head to 17,000 head. Marketings decreased by 4,000 head to 13,000 head. Other disappearance totaled 2,000 head during the month of January 2004.

UNITED STATES: Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 11.1 million head on February 1, 2004. The inventory was 4 percent above February 1, 2003 but 4 percent below February 1, 2002. Placements in feedlots during January totaled 1.75 million, 16 percent below 2003 and 20 percent below 2002. Net placements were 1.65 million. During January, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 362,000, 600-699 pounds were 466,000, 700-799 pounds were 576,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 342,000. Marketings of fed cattle during January totaled 1.78 million, down 10 percent from 2003 and down 14 percent from 2002. Other disappearance totaled 94,000 during January, 25 percent above 2003 and 6 percent above 2002.

Cattle on Feed: Number on Feed, Placements, Marketings, and Other Disappearance, 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots ^{1/}

| | Number on Feed | | | Placed | | | Marketed | | | Other Disappearance ^{2/} | | |
|-----------|----------------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|-----------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| | | | | | | | DURING | | | | | |
| | 2/1/03 | 1/1/04 | 2/1/04 | 1/03 | 12/03 | 1/04 | 1/03 | 12/03 | 1/04 | 1/03 | 12/03 | 1/04 |
| | -----1,000 Head----- | | | | | | | | | | | |
| AZ | 291 | 293 | 296 | 29 | 32 | 32 | 24 | 22 | 26 | 3 | 1 | 3 |
| CA | *480 | 510 | 500 | 58 | 70 | 55 | 67 | 55 | 60 | 6 | 5 | 5 |
| CO | 1,030 | 1,040 | 1,040 | 225 | 180 | 165 | 205 | 190 | 160 | 10 | 10 | 5 |
| ID | *290 | 300 | 275 | 56 | 53 | 41 | 65 | 60 | 64 | 1 | 3 | 2 |
| IA | *390 | 370 | 380 | 69 | 50 | 59 | *72 | 48 | 47 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| KS | 2,220 | 2,430 | 2,420 | 540 | 410 | 455 | 500 | 435 | 440 | 20 | 25 | 25 |
| NE | 2,220 | 2,280 | 2,280 | 480 | 350 | 380 | 390 | 340 | 360 | 10 | 10 | 20 |
| NM | 114 | 115 | 117 | 9 | 14 | 17 | 13 | 17 | 13 | 1 | 3 | 2 |
| OK | 330 | 355 | 350 | *46 | 53 | 50 | 49 | 45 | 53 | 2 | 3 | 2 |
| SD | 215 | 200 | 200 | *46 | 31 | 30 | *45 | 30 | 29 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| TX | 2,600 | 2,830 | 2,770 | 420 | 420 | 390 | 435 | 410 | 430 | 15 | 20 | 20 |
| WA | 180 | *200 | 185 | 36 | 30 | 26 | 39 | 38 | 40 | 2 | 2 | 1 |
| Oth Sts | 340 | 330 | 310 | 75 | 55 | 46 | 68 | 50 | 60 | 2 | 5 | 6 |
| US | *10,700 | *11,253 | 11,123 | *2,089 | 1,748 | 1,746 | *1,972 | 1,740 | 1,782 | 75 | 90 | 94 |

* Revised. ^{1/} Cattle and calves on feed are animals for slaughter market being fed a ration of grain or other concentrates and are expected to produce a carcass that will grade select or better. ^{2/} Includes death losses, movement from feedlots to pastures, and shipments to other feedlots for further feeding.

QUARTERLY FARM LABOR

NEW MEXICO-ARIZONA: There were 16,000 hired workers on farms and ranches in New Mexico and Arizona during the week of January 11-17th, 2004, down 11% from October. Average hours worked decreased to 44.9 hours, down 6% from October and 5% less than January 2003. Field worker wage rates increased 52 cents from last January to \$7.44 per hour, while livestock workers saw a decline of 24 cents to \$7.98 per hour. Overall, wage rates for all hired agricultural workers improved to \$8.37 an hour, up 25 cents compared to this time last year.

UNITED STATES: There were 847,000 hired workers on the Nation's farms and ranches during the week of January 11-17, 2004, down 5 percent from a year ago. Of these hired workers, 667,000 workers were hired directly by farm operators. Agricultural service employees on farms and ranches made up the remaining 180,000 workers. The number of hours worked averaged 38.1 hours for hired workers during the survey week, up 1 percent from a year ago. Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage of \$9.41 per hour during the January 2004 reference week, up 7 cents from a year earlier. Field workers received an average of \$8.39 per hour, up 9 cents from last January, while livestock workers earned \$8.84 per hour compared with \$8.90 a year earlier. The field and livestock worker combined wage rate, at \$8.55 per hour, was up 5 cents from last year.

**Workers on Farms, Hours worked Per Week, and Wage Rates for All Hired Workers,
Selected Regions and U.S., January 03-04 ^{1/}**

| | Mountain II ^{2/} | | Mountain III ^{3/} | | Southern Plains ^{4/} | | United States ^{5/} | |
|---------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------|
| | Jan 12-18 2003 | Jan 11-17 2004 | Jan 12-18 2003 | Jan 11-17 2004 | Jan 12-18 2003 | Jan 11-17 2004 | Jan 12-18 2003 | Jan 11-17 2004 |
| Workers on Farms | -----Thousands----- | | | | | | | |
| All Hired Workers | 20 | 17 | 22 | 16 | 50 | 60 | 729 | 667 |
| Hours Worked | -----Hours Per Week----- | | | | | | | |
| All Hired Workers | 39.7 | 39.7 | 47.2 | 44.9 | 37.9 | 34.0 | 37.7 | 38.1 |
| Wages By Work Type | -----Dollars Per Hour----- | | | | | | | |
| Field | 9.15 | 8.75 | 6.92 | 7.44 | 8.13 | 7.46 | 8.30 | 8.39 |
| Livestock | 8.73 | 8.81 | 8.22 | 7.98 | 8.51 | 7.97 | 8.90 | 8.84 |
| Field & Livestock | 8.85 | 8.80 | 7.48 | 7.69 | 8.29 | 7.73 | 8.50 | 8.55 |
| All Workers | 9.66 | 9.80 | 8.12 | 8.37 | 8.85 | 8.43 | 9.34 | 9.41 |

^{1/} Excludes agricultural service workers. ^{2/} Mountain Region II consists of CO, NV & UT. ^{3/} Mountain Region III consists of AZ & NM. ^{4/} Southern Plains region consists of OK & TX. ^{5/} Excludes AK.